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State Department review completed

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GENERAL

1. Chinese desire part in Franco-Siamese border settlement--US Ambassador Stuart reports that the Chinese Foreign Minister has indicated China's interest in a peaceful settlement of the Franco-Siamese border question and in Chinese participation in any such settlement. The Chinese Foreign Minister understands that, while the Siamese wish the fifth member of the Conciliation Commission to be Chinese, the French prefer a Swiss; he has requested an expression of US attitude on this point.

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EUROPE

3. GERMANY: USSR again blocks action on German labor deportations--Heath reports a "degree of futility not witnessed recently in any control body" in the debate on labor removals at the 20 November meeting of the Control Council. The Soviet representative rejected all proposals, declaring the USSR "had no desire to continue any further removals of German specialists, although German engineers might be employed in the same manner that other foreign engineers had been brought to Russia."
USSR opposes further air corridors--Heath also reports that the Soviet member at the same meeting opposed all US, UK and French suggestions for greater freedom of flight for all civil and military aircraft over Germany and "rudely ignored" the question as to whether he could obtain his Government's authority to discuss the matter further.

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Constitutions to be drafted for Soviet Zone Laender--Heath further reports that Soviet authorities have asked party leaders in their Zone to draft constitutions for the five Laender. SED views are likely to prevail and to result in the adoption by the newly-elected Landtage of virtually identical constitutions, in contrast to the US Zone where each constitution is different. Heath notes that the Soviet action is inconsistent with previous Soviet criticism of the US for adopting Zone constitutions prior to quadripartite agreement on the German political structure.

- 25X1 4. FRANCE: CGT leadership supports French Empire autonomy movements--US Embassy Paris has learned [redacted] that the Communist majority in the CGT is "almost openly" supporting the various autonomy movements in Tunisia and other French overseas territories.

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NEAR EAST-AFRICA

5. IRAN: Agreement with Azerbaijan--US Consulate Tabriz reports that Pishevari, head of the Azerbaijan Democratic Party, stated that "politics have changed" and demanded the acceptance by the Provincial Council of an agreement between Azerbaijan and Tehran. The terms of the agreement (which has not yet been signed but rests on commitments of Azerbaijan leaders) include (a) incorporation of 10,000 Azerbaijanis in the Iranian Army and stationing of 4,000 Azerbaijan gendarmes in the area, and (b) appointment of an officer from Tehran as chief of staff for Azerbaijan with the present Azerbaijan chief of staff acting as his Secretary.

FAR EAST

- 25X1 6. FRENCH INDOCHINA: Deterioration in Franco-Vietnam relations--According to US Consul Hanoi, no progress is being made in the implementation of the Franco-Vietnam "modus vivendi." The French allegedly continue their terrorism in Cochin China while the Vietnam Government is apparently fomenting strikes in Tonkin to force French concessions. [redacted] the French, in the present Franco-Vietnam military talks, maintain that the 20,000 French troops in Northern Annam and Tonkin will remain there to protect French "air and sea bases." The Vietnamese will almost certainly find this demand unacceptable.

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